

Thrash was a role model and community leader, he served in the Georgia Municipal and Cobb Municipal associations, and his service to the National League of Cities Council on Youth, Education, and Families, Thrash was named Citizen of the Year by the Northwest Cobb Area Council of the Chamber of Commerce and the Kennesaw Business Association.

His colleagues and friends will always remember Thrash as someone who loved public service and was particularly passionate about creating programs for young people to thrive in the community. He is credited as being the driving force behind an after-school recreational program for at-risk teens, and for the development of Cantrell Park.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my deepest condolences to William E. Thrash's wife Suzie, his daughter Mandy, and sons Robbie and Billy during these most difficult of times. It saddens me to know that the world is missing an honorable and dedicated man, but I am humbled to know that he is now in a better place.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1960) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2014 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Chair, I'm pleased to rise today in support of my bipartisan bill, the Deployed Troops Support Act, which has been accepted as an Amendment to H.R. 1960, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014.

I would like to thank House Armed Services Committee Chairman MCKEON and Ranking Member SMITH for their support in helping this important Amendment to move forward. I would also like to thank the cosponsors of H.R. 1756, the Deployed Troops Support Act for their support: FREDERICA WILSON of Florida, DENNIS ROSS of Florida, LOUIS GOHMERT of Texas, WILLIAM ENYART of Illinois, CHRISTOPHER GIBSON of New York, KERRY BENTIVOLIO of Mississippi, DONNA CHRISTENSEN of the U.S. Virgin Islands, LARRY BUCHSON of Indiana, and DEREK KILMER of Washington.

Mr. Chairman, when our soldiers are deployed to defend our Nation, many patriotic Americans show their support for our brave men and women in uniform by putting together care packages. This Amendment simply allows the Department of Defense to transport, on a space available basis, goods supplied by nonprofit organizations to members of the Armed Services who are deployed overseas.

This Amendment gives veterans' nonprofits and other private charitable organizations that support our troops the same consideration that organizations are already given for transporting humanitarian goods to foreign nationals overseas. In this Amendment, we extend

the same courtesy for our own troops that we have granted to foreigners under the "Denton Program" since 1985.

We also ensure that the Secretary has the authority to determine that there is a legitimate need for the goods being shipped, that supplies are suitable for distribution, and that adequate arrangements have been made for distribution.

This legislative idea was brought to my attention by veterans in my congressional district, specifically AVET Project in Brevard County. I especially commend Garren and Kim Cone and the members of AVET for their service to our Nation and their support for our soldiers. Again, thanks to everyone involved for helping to advance this common sense Amendment.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1960) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2014 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Chair, I am pleased to offer this bipartisan amendment on behalf of my fellow co-chairs of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus: Reps. DIAZ-BALART, CARTER, and SIRE. We also have two other notable cosponsors: Rep. GINGREY, the former co-chair of the Caucus, and Rep. GRANGER. Our amendment would affirm the United States' longstanding economic and defensive partnership with Taiwan, which dates back to the 1940s.

This amendment reflects the same language adopted by voice vote in the House during consideration of the FY13 National Defense Authorization Act. In the 112th Congress, 181 Members of the House of Representatives sent a letter to the Administration citing the "critical" need for the United States "to sell the government of Taiwan all the F-16 C/D [aircraft] it requires." The letter urged the Administration to "move quickly" on this matter and cited the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979 (TRA) as the statutory basis for such a sale.

The Administration's announcement to sell only a retrofit package for Taiwan's older fighter jets disappointed Taiwan's supporters. After all, U.S. policy with regard to the defensive capabilities of Taiwan is clearly outlined in the TRA, which states it is the policy of the U.S. "to provide Taiwan with arms of a defensive character."

Moreover, three joint communiqués between the U.S. and the People's Republic of China (PRC), and the "Six Assurances" to Taipei offered by President Reagan, add additional context to the U.S.-Taiwan relationship. The defensive weapons provision in the TRA has been an irritant in the relationship with Beijing, but this provision is necessary for Taiwan's defense.

It should be no surprise that advocates for Taipei's defensive needs continue to push for

the sale of the 66 F-16 C/D planes. It is important that U.S. obligations to provide for Taiwan's defenses—codified in and by the TRA—be dictated by our assessments of Taiwan's needs and not by the threat, implied or otherwise, of Taiwan's big neighbor. Beyond this defense relationship, the United States has strong economic ties with Taiwan. In 2010 total U.S. trade with Taiwan was \$61.9 billion, making it the 9th largest U.S. trading partner.

I encourage my colleagues to vote for this bipartisan amendment directing the President to sell 66 F-16 C/D aircraft to Taiwan.

HONORING SAL CASTRO

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2013

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, Sal Castro (October 25, 1933–April 15, 2013) was a Mexican-American educator and activist. He was most well-known for his role in the student walkouts at East Los Angeles high schools in 1968. With Sal's assistance and guidance, the students protested against unequal conditions in the Los Angeles Unified School District schools.

Long after he retired from teaching, Sal continued his lectures that shared his experiences and the importance of education, particularly in Mexican American communities. After a seven month battle with cancer, Sal Castro passed away in his sleep on April 15, 2013.

A funeral mass was celebrated for Sal at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels in Los Angeles on April 25, 2013. In tribute to Mr. Castro's life efforts, I would like to submit into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the eulogy honoring him which was delivered by Mario T. Garcia, Professor of Chicano Studies and History at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

EULOGY FOR: SAL CASTRO

Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels

Los Angeles, CA, April 25, 2013

About fifteen years ago, I invited Sal Castro to speak to my Chicano History class at UC Santa Barbara. My students and I were enthralled with the power of his voice, the humanity that he projected, and that wonderful humor. I knew then that I had to write his story. That story testifies to Sal's place in history and it is an honored place.

Very few of us have the opportunity to make history that affects others' lives. Sal Castro did that. He did that by first of all dedicating his career to being a teacher. There is nothing Sal would not do for his students. He did this for four decades and touched the lives of countless young people.

Sal made history by the inspirational and courageous leadership that he provided his kids as he called them in the 1968 Blowouts or walkouts in the East Los Angeles schools the largest high school student strike in American history. I do not believe that the Blowouts would have occurred without Sal's leadership. He put his career and perhaps even his life on the line for the students in this movement. He didn't do it because he personally wanted publicity or rewards. He did it because of the injustices of an educational system that for decades had denied Mexican American students a quality education and an opportunity to go to college. Sal Castro took on the entire educational establishment because they did not care about his kids.